(c) whether the new policy would also safeguard the co-operatives against market imperfections; and

(d) if so, by when the policy is likely to be announced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The Government of India has formulated a National Policy on Co-operatives. The objective of the Policy is to facilitate all-around development of the Cooperatives and their economic viability. It aims at providing necessary support, encouragement and assistance to the cooperatives so as to ensure their functioning as autonomous, self-reliant and democratically managed institutions to enable them to compete with other economic enterprises, including multinationals and to face the challenges of open and competitive market. The policy also aims at inculcating professionalisation in the Management of the Cooperatives.

A rehabilitation package for the revitalisation of the cooperative credit structure has already been finalised based on the recommendations of Jagdish Kapoor Committee and Joint Committee under the Chairmanship of Minister of State, Finance.

(d) The policy as approved by the Government has been laid on the Tables of both the Houses or Parliament and circulated to the States.

Tours of Officers of Mother Dairy's (F&V) Plant at Mangolpuri

4661. MISS MABEL REBELLO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of tours conducted by the officials of the Mother Dairy's (F&V) Plant at Mangolpuri, New Delhi, during the last three years, to other States and the purpose of such tours.

(b) the expenditure incurred by the plant on the tours of such officials during the same period;

(c) whether the objectives of tours have been achieved; and

(d) the criteria fixed in selecting the persons for tours to other States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) Tours to various cities, towns and villages outside Delhi State have been undertaken by the officials of F&V Plant, Mangolpuri in last 3 years for performing their normal work and specific work allotted from time to time as per the requirement in the areas of procurement, sales, marketing, market development, business development, selection, training, review meetings, market study, commercial activities, setting up all India retail network, surveys, consultancy, preparation of reports etc.

(b) During the last 3 years' period (1999-2000 to 2001-2002) a total expenditure of about Rs. 112.77 lacs was incurred on tour.

(c) Generally the objectives of such tours are achieved.

(d) The persons whose nature of job involves regular touring are, sent on tours in course of discharging their job responsibility in other cases, selection is made depending on the objective, job requirement, area of responsibility, suitability, availability of persons etc.

Return of unsold products to Mother Dairy's (F&V) Plant

4662. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Mother Dairy's (F&V) booths in NCT and NCR are being supplied products by the plant located at Mangolpuri, New Delhi;

(b) if so, whether in the absence of sale of any of the products, particularly fruits and vegetables at booths, the same are not taken back by the plant; and

(c) if so, the reasons and the justification thereof?